

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6787

BILL NUMBER: HB 1997

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 19, 2002

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Chain Gangs.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Turner

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires the Department of Correction to implement a plan requiring certain inmates to perform labor in chain gang groups.

Effective Date: July 1, 2003.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The added expenditures associated with this bill depend on the plan developed by the Department of Correction (DOC). There is no appropriation in this bill to carry out the plan.

The potential expenditures required for using chain gangs in Indiana would be affected by the work performed, work agreements, the number of inmates deemed acceptable for chain gang work, and DOC security measures. As of October 31, 2002, 1,254 prisoners were committed to minimum security (nonfenced) facilities. DOC indicated that the Department frequently has work crews assigned for such tasks as municipal work, state park maintenance, and road crew work. DOC stated that these prisoners do not require escape restraints while working.

The costs for the Department to add a component of chain gangs to its current work program would be an estimated \$200,000 per work crew. This is based on ten inmates per crew. The added costs for the crew include three correctional officers and uniforms, uniforms for offenders, leg restraints, one bus, one van, additional van equipment for each crew, chains, hand guns, and shot guns.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Correction.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Department of Correction Planning Division.

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